

SPF SIG
Training/Outreach Work Group Meeting
January 23, 2007

Attending: Marcia French, Jessica Parks, Sonya Cleveland, Neal Holtan, John Viernes, Martha Payne, Lisa Hutcheson

SPF SIG staffing update:

Marcia reported there have been no responses to the bi-lingual project assistant position so they have decided to not re-post the job. Instead, John indicated that the funds could be used for something else (appx. \$50k) such as supplying an additional community consultant or two for the project. DMHA will rely on already existing staff to assist with this project.

Strategic Plan update:

Marcia gave an update for those who were not at the last meeting. CSAP has recommended that we pare the 6 funding priorities to 3 which are alcohol, cocaine, and meth. CSAP will only support 3 priorities for funding, but the state can still choose to focus on all 6 areas of priority. Based on the applicants received, funding will likely be divided with 60% going to alcohol, and 20% going to cocaine and meth respectively. Funding percentages will be adjusted based on the quality and number of applications received.

Roll Out and Timeline:

The roll out components initially developed are the same but the timeline has been distilled with the deadline for contracts now being July 1. The timeline will be very tight and pending CSAP approval of the revised strategic plan, Marcia hopes to have their approval by the middle of February.

The allocation process will still follow the high need/high contributor model and it is the hope that 10 communities will be funded for a planning grant (12-18 months) and then an implementation grant provided that they meet certain benchmarks. Applicants must work with the LCCs in order to apply – they must show that they are partnering with the LCC and community consultant. Sonya brought up issues of limited resources and staffing concerns given that a full time consultant can likely only work with one community on this SPF SIG. Sonya thinks she can add another FT person or two if the current PT consultants will agree to work FT.

Paula began the discussion about LCCs by stating there was a need to define the role and responsibilities of the LCC. Is the LCC more of an advisor to the group applying for the grant, or are they the steering body. After some discussion it was recommended that during the planning grant the LCC would serve in an advisory capacity but during the implementation grant, they would serve as the steering body. There is a CC meeting on February 12th and Sonya will talk about the SPF SIG and perhaps bring in the IPRC to do a training on the SPF SIG process.

Applicants

Those applying for SPF SIG dollars should generally fall within the SEOW report on problem indicators and readiness (see handout for county break down). However, if a community falls below the 25% and can submit comparable data, they will be considered. An expert review panel (members tbd) will review all grant applications before they are given to the GRP (grant review panel) for approval.

Applicants must show that they have been able to partner with the LCC and others, have found an acceptable fiscal agent, and have identified a “lead organization or agency”. Applicants will also have to meet certain benchmarks and submit quarterly reports to be considered for an implementation grant. If benchmarks are not met, and more importantly progress is not shown in meeting them even with technical assistance, implementation grants will not be awarded to that applicant.

All applicants will be required to attend the informational sessions as well as one of the regional training sessions (3-4 in the north, central, and southern parts of the state). Marcia hopes that with a timely CSAP approval, the first information session will take place at the end of February.

Newsletter update

Jessica is now doing the newsletter and the first edition will be distributed by Friday. This newsletter will still have the “what’s next” section but the dates will be removed and general timelines listed. Instead of taking time and resources to develop one very large SPG SIG newsletter database, each work group member will be responsible for distributing it through their own networks. Eric Martin will send it out through IPRC, Sonya through the LCCs, and Paula to the OFBCI database. It will also be sent to the GAC for their information and distribution.

Next meeting:

January 30th – the discussion will center around the informational sessions, their structure, and the general agenda for those. We will discuss what needs to go in the information packets, how to diplomatically talk to participants about the revised funding priorities, and Paula will be assigning tasks.